THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) The details of the projects approved under the Wasteland Development Programme pertaining to Rajasthan and Orissa since creation of the Department of Wastelands Development till July, 1997 are given at Annexure (*See* Appendix 181, Annexure No. 661.

(b) and (c) There is no project pending with Centre for clearance.

(d) to (f) Swedish International Development Authority (SIDA) assisted Tree Growers Co-operative Projects (TGCP) are being implemented in the States of Rajasthan and Orissa under the Department of Wastelands Development. The details are given in the Annexure (*See* Appendix 181, Annexure No. 661.

**Functional problems experienced by the elected women sarpanches**

2447. SHRI NARENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether women elected as sarpanches under the 33 per cent. quota reserved for women for such elected posts, are experiencing any functional problems;

(b) if so, the areas of functioning where such problems arise; and

(c) what remedial measures have been taken by Government and whether any guidelines have been issued in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. YERRANNAIDU): (a) to (c) No such specific instances have been reported by any State Government to the Government of India. In general states have been asked to give importance to the training of women elected representatives of Panchayats.

**कांडला पत्तन में अग्निकांड की घटनाएं**

2448. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी** क्या **जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री** यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कांडला पत्तन में अग्निकांड की घटनाएं बार-बार हो रही हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(घ) अग्निकांड की इन घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं;

(ङ) क्या उक्त पत्तन में अग्निशमन सेवा पर्याप्त नहीं है; और

(च) यदि हां, तो सरकार द्वारा इस संबंध में अब तक क्या कदम उठाये गये हैं?

**जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री (श्री टी० जी० वेंकटरामन)** : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) से (च) प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

**Road development project through privatistion in Maharashtra**

2449. SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering the request of Maharashtra Government for road development project through privatisation particularly National Highways;

(b) the details, guidelines and directives in this regard; and

(c) the funds allocation for this project and by when this project will be started?